

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) Device for measuring reflection and transmission properties of objects and surfaces having:
 - a housing;
 - an optical measuring base unit comprising at least one measuring means for detecting reflection and transmission radiation by means of at least one sensor means; and
 - at least one retaining means for the elastic retention of said optical measuring base unit within said housing;
 - whereby said optical measuring base unit comprises at least one touchdown means for setting said optical measuring base unit down upon a surface to be measured; and
 - whereby a base surface of said optical measuring base unit assumes a predetermined elastically adjustable position relative the housing in the unpositioned state.
2. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein said optical measuring base unit is provided for measuring at least one characteristic parameter of said measurement surface, whereby at least one of said at least one characteristic parameter is taken from among a group of parameters which includes gloss, haze, florescence, distinction of image (DOI), a representative measure of typical wavelengths and their amplitudes (orange peel) of the surface topology of said measurement

surface at a predetermined wavelength interval, whereby an evaluation may also ensue at two or more wavelength ranges when determining said representative measure, and a color of said surface.

3. (previously presented) Device according to claim 2, wherein two, three or more characteristic parameters of said measurement surface are ascertainable.
4. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein said base surface of said optical measuring base unit encompasses at least one contact surface of said touchdown means with said surface to be measured.
5. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein said touchdown means encompasses at least one supporting means, whereby at least one of said at least one supporting means contacts said surface to be measured in the positioned touchdown state.
6. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein at least one supporting means comprises at least one length control means which enables an elastic length change of said supporting means.
7. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein at least one retaining means comprises a guiding means so that said optical measuring base unit is arranged displaceable in at least one direction in said guiding means.
8. (previously presented) Device according to claim 7, wherein at least one of said at least one guiding means comprises a reset means so that a resetting force is introducible to said optical measuring base unit at least in the positioned touchdown state.
9. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein a means is provided for determining of alignment of the base surface to the measurement surface.

10. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein a detecting means is provided for the detecting of at least one change in condition of the optical measuring base unit induced by touchdown on the measurement surface, whereby said change in condition is taken from among a group comprising changes in condition which encompass a change in position of said optical measuring base unit relative said housing and a change in pressure on said touchdown means.
11. (previously presented) Device according to claim 10, wherein said detecting means detects changes in position from at least one displacement of said optical measuring base unit at at least one point essentially perpendicular to said measurement surface.
12. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein an activating means is provided to activate the measuring means upon attaining a suitable alignment of said base surface and measurement surface.
13. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein at least one detecting means, which detects at least one change in position of said optical measuring base unit relative said housing, comprises a means for determining contingencies taken from among a group of means configured for such determinations such as capacitive measuring means for deriving changes in the capacitance of a capacitor means, inductive measuring means for deriving changes in inductance, resistive measuring means for deriving changes in resistance and force measuring means for deriving changes in the force exerted on said retaining means.
14. (currently amended) Device according to claim 13, wherein said detecting means detects changes in pressure occurring at the contact surface, whereby [[said]] at least one detecting means is preferably disposed as a capacitive and/or as a local resolution detecting means.
15. (previously presented) Device according to claim 13, wherein said detecting means comprises at least one light barrier means, whereby at

least one light barrier means emits a signal when at least a part of said optical measuring base unit undergoes a predetermined change in position.

16. (currently amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein at least one retaining means of said optical measuring base unit is urged by at least one compressing means toward an interior surface of said housing, whereby said compressing means is taken from among a group comprising spring means, foam and durofoam means, rubber means and ~~in particular hard rubber means~~ and helical spring means.
17. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein said housing has an interior transverse carrier means which at least comprises one partially hollow lug with a spring element supported therein, whereby at least one spring element presses against a part of said optical measuring base unit.
18. (previously presented) Device according to claim 17, wherein said transverse carrier means is disposed with an opening through which the lugs provided on the optical measuring base unit extend into the interior of the housing, and at least one of said one least light barrier means is activated by a disk means affixed to an end of said lug.
19. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein wheels are disposed on said housing or said optical measuring base unit.
20. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein said measuring base unit furthermore comprises at least one source of radiation, the radiation emitted therefrom being directed at least partially at a predetermined angle to the surface to be measured.
21. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein said housing can be set down upon the surface to be measured for taking a measurement such that at least one part of said housing comes into direct contact with said surface to be measured.

22. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein at least one part of said optical measuring base unit protrudes from said housing in unpositioned state.
23. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein touching said housing down upon the surface to be measured induces a displacement of said optical measuring base unit within said housing.
24. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein said housing encompasses at least one housing supporting means whereby said housing supporting means is in direct contact with the surface to be measured in positioned touchdown state.
25. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein said optical measuring base unit is pivotally arranged within said housing relative at least one pivotal axis.
26. (previously presented) Device according to claim 25, wherein at least one of said at least one pivotal axis is aligned essentially parallel to the surface to be measured.
27. (previously presented) Device according to claim 25, wherein said pivotal axis is aligned essentially perpendicular to a connecting segment between two supporting means of said optical measuring base unit, whereby said pivotal axis is preferably arranged essentially centrally between said two supporting means.
28. (currently amended) Device according to claim [[1]] 25, wherein a clearance distance of said pivotal axis to the surface to be measured is smaller than a length of said connecting segment.
29. (previously presented) Device according to claim 25, wherein said pivotal axis is retained displaceably on said guiding means.

30. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein a length control means is provided in at least one supporting means so that the longitudinal extension of the at least one supporting means may be adjusted.
31. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein at least one clearance distance to the surface to be measured is determinable at at least two points of said housing or optical measuring base unit, whereby said clearances are determined through the evaluation of the signals emitted by at least one transmitting means and received by at least one receiving means, whereby at least one of said transmitting means emits signals which are taken from among a group which encompasses electromagnetic or sound waves, and whereby said evaluation ensues by utilizing a method encompassing methods of running time measurement, triangulation, or interference evaluation, whereby a representative measure of curvature for the surface is derived from said clearance.
32. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein a pattern projection means is provided for projecting a light pattern onto the surface to be measured in which a sensor means receives the light reflected from the measurement surface and a representative measure of curvature for the measurement surface is derived in at least one direction from evaluating the light intensity profile.
33. (presently presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein a tilting of said optical measuring base unit relative the surface to be measured can be determined so that measurement values can be corrected thereto.
34. (presently presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein at least four clearance sensors are arranged in such a manner that at least one tilting of said optical measuring base unit relative the surface to be measured can be determined and that a Wheat stone bridging circuit means is provided, the signal of which can be used to control the length control means of the supporting means so as to attain an alignment of the base

surface to the surface to be measured which is within a permissible range.

35. (previously presented) A method for operating a device for measuring reflection and transmission properties of objects and surfaces having a housing, an optical measuring base unit comprising at least one measuring means for detection reflection and transmission radiation, by means of at least one sensor means, and at least one retaining means for the elastic retention of said optical measuring base unit within said housing, whereby said optical measuring base unit comprises at least one touch-down means for setting said optical measuring base unit down upon a surface to be measured, and whereby a base surface of said optical measuring base unit assumes a predetermined elastically adjustable position relative in the housing in the unpositioned state, comprising the steps:
 - i) setting of the device down on the measurement surface;
 - ii) detecting a change in condition of said optical measuring base unit relative to the housing induced by setting down of the touchdown means on the measurement surface;
 - iii) determining whether said change in condition indicates a permissible alignment of said base surface and said measurement surface; and
 - iv) activating of a measurement when said change in condition indicates a permissible range for the alignment of said base surface and said measurement surface.
36. (previously presented) Method according to claim 35, with the step:
 - deactivating of a measurement when said change in condition exceeds a predefined tolerance deviation from the permissible alignment of said base surface and said measurement surface.
37. (previously presented) Method according to claim 35, with the step:

- emitting of a warning signal when said change in condition exceeds a predefined tolerance deviation from the permissible alignment of said base surface and said measurement surface.